

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04427 210412 Z

73

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 NEA-10 IO-12 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02

INRE-00 RSR-01 /172 W

----- 106839

P 210219 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1601

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 4427

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID: EFIN: XC: LA

SUBJECT: RED: MEKONG: PROPOSED ADB TA

MANILA FOR USADB FOR NAC AGENCIES

REF: MANILA 3081 BANGKOK 4136

1. THE INCLUSION OF THE CASIER SUD IN THE PIONEER PROGRAM WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE LAO NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND THE BALANCE OF THE COMMITTEE AND SECRETARIAT CONCURRED IN THE SELECTION. THE VIEWS OF THE COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTING TO THE INVESTIGATION FUND WERE NEVER SOLICITED ABOUT THE PROJECTS SELECTED, AT LEAST NOT AT THE FIELD LEVEL. THIS IS THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE HAD TO COMMENT ON THE CASIER SUD. IN THE VIEW OF RED IT DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERION ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED FOR THE PIONEER IRRIGATION PROGRAM. THIS VIEW IS BASED PRIMARILY UPON THE REASONS OUTLINED IN BANGKOK 4136.

2. THE PIONEER AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM WAS ORIGINALLY IDENTIFIED AS PIONEER IRRIGATION PROGRAM. CHANGE WAS MADE AT SUGGESTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 04427 210412 Z

IBRD WHEN IT ANNOUNCED INTENT TO STUDY RAINFED AGRICULTURE. REALIZE THAT RAINFED AGRICULTURE IS MOST IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF MEKONG BASIN AGRICULTURE AND IT IS NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND RAINFED AGRICULTURE IN CONNECTION WITH ALLOCATION OF CAPITAL RESOURCES AMONG ALTERNATIVE POSSIBLE USES. NEVERTHELESS SCOPE OF MCC INVOLVES USE OF WATER FOR ITS VARIOUS PURPOSES INCLUDING IRRIGATION. THE PIONEER PROGRAM WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED TO DETERMINE HOW TO MAKE EFFECTIVE USE OF PROJECT TYPE IRRIGATION. RED INTERPRETS PROJECT TYPE IRRIGATION TO BE THAT WHICH INVOLVES LARGE AREAS (OVER 10,000 HECTARES) TO BE PROVIDED WATER BY COMMON FACILITIES, AND VIEWED THE PROGRAM OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE IN TERMS OF CHARTING THE COURSE FOR IRRIGATION IN NORTHEAST THAILAND AND THE DELTA WHERE LARGE AREAS ARE INVOLVED. IT WAS ON THE BASIS OF THIS KIND OF ACTIVITY THAT RED INITIALLY AGREED TO SUPPORT THE ACTIVITY AND FOR WHICH WE PROVIDED 500,000 DOLLARS FOR THE INVESTIGATION FUND.

3. IN MEANTIME THE PROGRAM HAS EVOLVED TO SOMETHING QUITE DIFFERENT THAN THE ORIGINAL CONCEPT. FIRST IT HAS CHANGED TO INCLUDE THE CONSIDERATION OF RAINFED AGRICULTURE. SECOND THE IDEA OF PROJECT TYPE IRRIGATION HAS EITHER BEEN DROPPED OR IS CONSIDERED OF LESS IMPORTANCE THAN ORIGINALLY. THIRD, SOME OF THE PROJECTS SEEM TO BE SELECTED PRIMARILY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE PRODUCTION FROM THE PARTICULAR UNIT RATHER THAN WHAT CAN BE LEARNED FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA THAT WILL BE USEFUL IN OTHER AREAS. THE CASTER SUD AREA SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY SELECTED FROM THIS LATTER POINT OF VIEW. THE SOILS ARE THE MOST PRODUCTIVE IN THE AREA, A WATER SUPPLY IS NEARBY, AND VIENTIANE, WHICH IS ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE UPSTREAM WILL PROVIDE A MARKET FOR THE SPECIALIZED CROPS THAT CAN BE PRODUCED IN THE AREA.

4. FROM TIME TO TIME PART OF THE LANDS IN THE CASIER SUD AS WELL AS OTHER ADJACENT AREAS HAVE BEEN IRRIGATED BY DIRECT PUMPING FROM THE RIVER. PUMPS HAVE BEEN OF SMALL CAPACITY SERVING EITHER INDIVIDUAL FARMS OR THOSE OF VILLAGES. TH AT THE PRESENT TIME, THERE IS NO PUMP IRRIGATION ON THE CASHIER SUD AREA. THE LAST OPERATION WENT BROKE ABOUT A YEAR AGO BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF GASOLINE FOR PUMPING. IF A POWER LINE IS EXTENDED TO THIS AREA AND IF POWER IS MADE AVAILABLE FOR IRRIGATION PUMPING AT REASONABLE RATES, INDIVIDUALS AND VILLAGES WILL IMMEDIATELY PUT IN SYSTEMS TO IRRIGATE ALL OF THE GOOD SOILS ALONG THE RIVER. THIS AREA DOES NOT NEED PROJECT TYPE FACILITIES ALTHOUGH THEY COULD BE USED IN THE AREA. IT IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT THE LAND OWNERS WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 04427 210412 Z

EVER ELECT TO GO INTO LARGE IRRIGATION ASSOCIATIONS SO LONG AS THEY

HAVE THE OPTION OF PROCEEDING WITH THEIR VILLAGE SYSTEM OR INDEPENDENTLY. HOWEVER, PROJECT TYPE FACILITIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO SERVE THOSE AREAS MORE DISTANT FROM THE RIVER WHERE THE EXPENSES OF PUTTING IN PRIVATE SYSTEMS WILL MAKE IT PROHIBITIVE.

5. ONE OF THE REASONS WE EMPHASIZE PROJECT TYPE DEVELOPMENT IS THAT EXPERIENCE IN THIS REGION INDICATES THAT ONE OF THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN IRRIGATION IS THE HUMAN PROBLEM, I. E., HOW DO YOU ORGANIZE THE WATER USERS AND THE GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS SO THEY CAN EFFECTIVELY MANAGE AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM. IS IT FOR THIS AS WELL AS THE REASONS NOTED IN BANGKOK 4136 THAT RED OBJECTED TO THE INCLUSION OF CASHER SUD AS A PIONEER IRRIGATION PROJECT.

6. WE DO NOT AT THIS JUNCTURE HAVE ANY IDEAS HOW THE IBRD AND THE

ADB WILL PROCEED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GIVEN PROJECTS. THAT IS, WILL THEY USE THEIR OWN FUNDS TO FINANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS OR WILL THEY SEEK FUNDS FROM DONORS JUST AS THEY DID IN THE CASE OF THE INVESTIGATION FUND? IF THEY DO SEEK FUNDS FROM THE DONORS THEN RED WILL BE MORE CONCERNED WITH THE PROJECTS SELECTED THAN IT WILL BE IF THEY USE THEIR OWN FUNDS. MOREOVER, IF THEY SEEK FUNDS FROM DONORS AND IF THEY PROPOSE TO MAKE THOSE FUNDS AVAILABLE ON A GRANT BASIS THEN RED WILL INDEED BE CONCERNED WITH THE KINDS OF PROJECTS THAT ARE PROPOSED TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PIONEER IRRIGATION PROGRAM. AT THIS TIME WE WOULD FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONCUR IN THE USE OF FUNDS CONTRIBUTED EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE US GOVERNMENT ON THE CASHER SUD PROJECT. ON THE OTHER HAND IF THE ADB IS GOING TO PROVIDE THE FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIT, THEN OUR ONLY INVOLVEMENT IS RELATIVELY MINOR- ONE QUARTER OF THE COST OF THE INVESTIGATION. WE WOULD NOT SUGGEST A CONFRONTATION OVER THIS.

UNGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO04427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730336/aaaaifil.tel
Line Count: 152
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <14-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971222
Subject: RED: MEKONG: PROPOSED ADB TA
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, LA, XC
To: MANILA
TRSE INFO STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005